



STATE OF MICHIGAN  
DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION  
LANSING

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GOVERNOR

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SUPERINTENDENT OF  
PUBLIC INSTRUCTION

August 9, 2012

**MEMORANDUM**

TO: Local and Intermediate School District Superintendents  
Public School Academy Directors  
Nonpublic School Administrators

FROM: Carol Wolenberg, Deputy Superintendent *Carol*

SUBJECT: USDA Donated Foods Carryover Balance Report by School District

On May 31, 2012, all Superintendents, Directors, and/or Administrators were notified in a memorandum of upcoming changes to the United States Department of Agriculture (USDA) Foods Program (formerly known as commodities). The memorandum stated that effective July 1, 2013, the Michigan Department of Education (MDE) would be implementing a carryover policy for USDA Foods. This carryover policy indicates that any pounds of USDA Foods remaining at a school's manufacturer and/or distributor at the end of each school year would be reclaimed and offered to other schools. This memorandum and policy can be found at:

[http://www.michigan.gov/documents/mde/Commodity\\_Policy\\_Change\\_387781\\_7.pdf](http://www.michigan.gov/documents/mde/Commodity_Policy_Change_387781_7.pdf)

To prepare for this policy change, schools and agencies are being given School Year (SY) 2012-2013 (July 1, 2012 through June 30, 2013) to reduce their existing balances at manufacturers and distributors. A list of balances (by school district/agency and product type) has been made available at the Office of School Support Services Food Distribution Program website and each consortium's website to assist schools and agencies in achieving this task. Two separate reports listed in alphabetical order by school district/agency, A through L and M through Z, have been posted at the Food Distribution Program website under the School Food Distribution Program section: <http://www.michigan.gov/mde-fdp>

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Schools and agencies that do not utilize these balances could possibly lose large amounts of valuable USDA donated foods that could reduce their meal costs throughout the upcoming school year.

If school district staff require additional information or have questions regarding the school USDA Foods Program, contact Jaime Malnar in the Food Distribution Unit at (517) 335-3792 or by e-mail at [malnarj1@michigan.gov](mailto:malnarj1@michigan.gov).

For questions relating to the change in USDA Foods inventory reporting and how it relates to the Financial Information Database reports, please contact Pat Conlen, Fiscal and Administrative Services, at (517) 373-9785.

cc: Michigan Education Alliance